

Walter Galbraith was a great man and a great surgeon. His immense popularity and the genuine affection which he so widely inspired were due to his complete naturalness and lack of any affectation, and to none was this more evident than to his own assistants and colleagues. Many whom he trained now occupy high posts in their profession and are for ever grateful for his kindness and encouragement.—J. A. W. McC.

A. J. writes: With the death of my friend Walter Galbraith there has passed from the scene a man of great capacity who accomplished many things. He was an outstanding clinical surgeon, and in the field of urology, his main surgical interest, he was a master. He dearly loved the intraprofessional association of those who sought to enhance the practice of his specialty. Together we made many surgical pilgrimages at home and abroad, sometimes in the company of a few kindred spirits, in order to see the work of those renowned for significant contributions to urological surgery. On these occasions, though temporarily relieved from the claims and cares of routine responsibility, his bent for action and sustained drive never left him; in his stimulating company there would be no rest until the goal sought had been won. At the social engagements which were usually associated with these surgical travels he would reveal himself as the vital Glaswegian, leading the party in good fellowship and ever ready to extol the virtues of his native city, of which he was so proud. He proved a dynamic president of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons. Of the many professional associations which he adorned his favourite was probably the British Association of Urological Surgeons, of which he was a founder member and a past-president. No one more than he strived to carry out its objective—" . . . to promote a high standard in the practice of urology." When he retired from hospital and surgical practice six years ago he continued to serve with zest on a number of committees and boards, who benefited from his background of insight, knowledge, and judgment. His constant aim in this sphere was to bridge the difference between how he found things and what he considered they ought to be.

Though the unremitting years have taken Walter Galbraith from us, he leaves behind him a long and rich record of achievements. To me he was a tolerant and magnanimous good friend who had my warm affection, and I shall always cherish his memory.

D. C. MONRO, C.B., C.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.Ed.

Major-General D. C. Monro, who came of a famous medical family and who had a distinguished career as a military surgeon, died at his home in Roehampton on December 6, aged 74. He was formerly professor of military surgery at the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, and consulting surgeon to the War Office.

David Carmichael Monro was born in Switzerland on May 19, 1886, the eldest son of C. J. Monro, of Palmerston North, New Zealand. His grandfather, Sir David Monro, was a prominent figure in the early history of modern New Zealand, holding among other offices that of Speaker in the House of Representatives, and he was a direct descendant of the famous surgeon-anatomists of the Edinburgh Medical School, Alexander Monro, Primus (1697-1767), Alexander Monro, Secundus (1733-1817), and Alexander Monro, Tertius (1773-1859). His mother was a great-granddaughter of George Macdonald, the Scottish writer and poet.

David Monro (or "Jock" as he came to be known) was brought up and educated in New Zealand, and after leaving Wellington College he went to Edinburgh in 1905 to study medicine. Having graduated M.B., Ch.B., in 1911 he held several resident appointments in the Royal Infirmary (as house-surgeon with the surgical out-patient department under Wade and Wilkie) and in other Edinburgh hospitals. In 1913 he went out to New Zealand as a ship surgeon, returning to the United Kingdom in August, 1914, intending to sit for the F.R.C.S. of Edinburgh. But war was declared

a day or two before he landed, and he immediately joined the R.A.M.C. During the next four years he served in many capacities—as assistant surgeon at the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, 3rd surgeon at No. 1 General Hospital at Le Havre and Etretat, M.O. to the 17th Field Ambulance at Armentières and Ypres, M.O. to the 3rd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, and later surgeon to a mobile surgical team with 44 C.C.S. He was mentioned in dispatches during the fighting in the Ypres salient in 1916. Four months before the Armistice he was posted to India and served first with King George V Military Hospital at Poona and then as surgeon to Northern Command at Rawalpindi and Murree (Punjab).

After five years in India he came back to the United Kingdom, serving first at Shorncliffe and then, after passing and obtaining a "special" in surgery at the senior course Royal Army Medical College, at Woolwich and Tidworth. From 1926 to 1931 he had a second tour in India, first at his old station Rawalpindi-Murree, but for the last 12 months he was detailed to the Commander-in-Chief's Staff at Simla and Delhi as personal surgeon to "the Chief." During that period he toured extensively with him and on the way up to Nepal took part in a tiger shoot, killing the "ringed" tiger meant for the Chief's rifle.

On his return to the United Kingdom in 1931 he went once more to Millbank, but later, at his own request, he was posted to the Castle, Edinburgh, and while there passed the examination for the Edinburgh F.R.C.S. A year or two later, while he was in command of a military hospital in Malta, he captained an Army golf side, and he and a brother officer won the Hall and Rundle cups against all comers, racing a 14-foot sailing boat. In 1938 he was posted to the Royal Army Medical College as assistant professor of surgery, but when the second world war broke out he was at first employed at the War Office on the important task of revising the surgical equipment for the field forces. Early in 1940 he was appointed consulting surgeon to the Army, with the rank of colonel, and shortly afterwards he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the King. When the British land forces were evacuated from the Continent, Monro asked to be permitted temporarily to forgo his War Office appointment and go out to the Middle East for active service. This request was immediately granted. He joined G.H.Q., Middle East Forces, on January 1, 1941, and served there as consultant surgeon to the Allied Forces on land till September, 1942. He was mentioned in dispatches (twice), promoted major-general, and appointed C.B.E. in 1943.

Shortly before his return to the War Office he was married in Alexandria to Kathleen Noon. On the journey home he was instructed to inspect all military hospitals administered by the Union Defence Forces throughout South Africa. There followed a strenuous four years of duty in London, interrupted in 1943 by a visit to Moscow as Army representative in the combined British, American, and Canadian Surgical Mission, and, later, by tours of inspection overseas. On the completion of four years' service, the maximum in the rank of major-general, he was retired, being appointed C.B. in 1946. But he was immediately re-employed in the rank of brigadier and returned to his old haunts as consultant surgeon to the Middle East Forces in Cairo and Fayid. In October, 1948, Monro was finally relegated to the retired pensioned list and returned with his wife to his home in Roehampton.

Before he ceased active duties he had conferred upon him the order of Commander of the Legion of Merit and the King Haakon VII Liberty Cross, largely for his leading part



[Walter Stoneman]

in bringing about the employment of the advance mobile field surgical units which did such magnificent duty in all active theatres of war from 1942 onwards. The American citation refers to "extraordinary fidelity and exceptionally meritorious conduct with performance of outstanding service," and this decoration, perhaps above all others, Jock Monro regarded with pride and satisfaction, largely because it seemed to cement permanently his great friendship with the many outstanding American colleagues he met and worked with during the second world war. He leaves a widow and an adopted daughter.

Major-General J. M. MACFIE writes: David Monro was one of the cheerful company of young doctors who came forward in the early months of the first world war to reinforce the officer cadre of the Royal Army Medical Corps and one of the considerable number who remained in the Corps to make the Army their career. How long he remained "David" in the Corps is not on record: to his friends he quickly became "Jock," and with the passing of the years the name Jock Monro became almost legendary not only in his own Corps but in the Army at large, both British and Indian.

The stories told of him—his zest for life, his wit, and the pranks he played—were almost as many as the stories he had to tell, and they were beyond number. He was in demand for every party, always the centre of the party and the perfect host. A very good golfer, he played for the R.A.M.C. on many occasions and was a member of the Corps team which won the Army Cup in 1926. He was also an expert flyfisher and a keen naturalist.

But it was as a practising surgeon that he really endeared himself to the Army and to the British soldier. Most of his active surgery was done at Woolwich, at Millbank, and especially at Rawalpindi, and it was a revelation to see him going round his wards. Every eye lit up at his approach, and he had a word of cheer for each bedside. One remembers especially a young signaller in the surgical ward at Rawalpindi, terribly smashed in a road accident: he counted the hours until the next visit and was cherished back to life by the sheer personality of his surgeon. There were many such. Jock always seemed to know of lame dogs for whom he could speak and whom he was ready to help.

His last duties on the active list were those of consulting surgeon to the Army at the War Office and in the Middle East. At a retired officer he was most happily selected to take charge of an out-patient department at Millbank, where most of the senior officers of the Army knew where to find him if in need of minor treatment or advice or even no more than a tonic brush with his happy personality.

J. C. W. writes: General Monro's death illustrates the true meaning of the saying that "Those the gods love, die young," as, in spite of three very serious illnesses, he never grew old, and only a week before his death brightened my day with yet another of his inimitable anecdotes.

I first met General Monro 22 years ago and admired his superbly dexterous operative skill as much as his charm and friendliness to a very junior officer, an admiration that every subsequent meeting served to reinforce. His contribution to military surgery was unique, but it was his unfailing cheerfulness, his utter unselfishness and outstanding kindness that endeared him to all. There will never be another "Jock" Monro, and the world will be a duller place for all who knew him.

LOUIS BAZY, M.D., Hon.F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S.

Dr. Louis Bazy, a French surgeon of great achievements and distinction, died recently in Paris after a long illness. He was 77 years of age.

Louis Pierre Jean Bazy was born in Paris on February 23, 1883, the son of Dr. Pierre Bazy, who was himself a famous surgeon. He studied medicine in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Paris, and at an exceptionally early age he was appointed an intern of the Paris hospitals. Further appointments followed: consultant at the Faculty of

Medicine of Paris (1913), surgeon of the Paris hospitals (1919), and consultant surgeon to the St. Louis Hospital, Paris (1930). During his internship he had an accident while operating and as a consequence lost an eye. At this very early age he was made an Officer of the Legion of Honour.

As consulting surgeon to the French Army he served in both world wars. During the first world war he began to come into contact with surgical colleagues from other countries, and from then on he always strove to further international surgical collaboration. As a military surgeon he interested himself particularly in problems of infection and immunization, and he was a pioneer in vaccination against tetanus. But he was not a narrow specialist, and the 300 or more papers he wrote covered an enormous field—pathological anatomy, clinical and operative surgery, endocrinology, bacteriology, and immunology. One of his interests was the medical service of French Railways, to which he was consultant surgeon.

As a leading figure in the surgical world both at home and abroad he received many honours. He was a Commander of the Legion of Honour and Officer of the Order of Leopold of Belgium. Having been secretary-general of the French Academy of Surgery, he was elected its president in 1942; and he was also a member of the Academy of Medicine, of the Academy of Sciences, and president of the French Red Cross organization. Admitted to the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1946, he was also an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, of the British Association of Surgeons, and of the American College of Surgeons.

Sir HENRY SOUTTAR writes: I first met Louis Bazy in September, 1914, when he was in charge of a French Hospital and I of an English at Furnes in Belgium, and we remained friends ever since. In 1937 he asked me to help in the renewal of the Académie de Chirurgie in Paris, which had fallen into decay. In its interest the Royal College of Surgeons sent over the President, Cuthbert Wallace, together with Max Page and myself, to Paris for the occasion. It was a very great success, and we three had the honour of being made Officers of the Legion of Honour. Louis Bazy was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and he had the very rare distinction of being one of the only two surgical Members of the Académie Française.

GEORGE SIMPSON, O.B.E., M.B., B.S.
F.R.C.O.G., M.R.C.P.

Dr. George Simpson, who played an important part in the founding of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, died suddenly on November 24 in Melbourne, where he was a well-known obstetrician. He was 61 years of age.

George Simpson was born at Hamilton, Victoria, Australia, in 1899, and was educated at Hamilton College and at Melbourne University, where he graduated M.B., B.S. in 1922. He was admitted a Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1926, and in 1933 he obtained the Diploma in Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Melbourne University. Elected a Member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in 1935, he became a Fellow in 1951. After graduation he held the appointment of resident medical officer and registrar at Melbourne Hospital. He was honorary obstetrician to the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, for many years, being honorary consulting surgeon to this hospital at the time of his death.

In 1925 he collaborated with the Rev. John Flynn in the first experiments with "pedal wireless" in inland Australia, and from these experiments emerged the plan for a flying doctor service. In 1927 he was appointed medical adviser to the Australian Inland Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and made a preliminary health survey of the interior by car, travelling some 4,500 miles, to assess the actual extent of the need for an aerial medical service. Later in the same year, on August 2, 1927, he inaugurated the flying doctor service, travelling by air with a patient with a